

## REMARKS

Newly added Claims 6-33 correspond to claims canceled from Applicants' copending Application Serial No. 08/979,064, namely, Claims 59, 2-8, 17, 18, 56, 22, 23, 57, 27-30, 58, 32-38, 47, and 48, respectively. In the Final Office Action (dated March 26, 2002) of Applicants' copending application, the Examiner rejected these claims in view of US Patent 6,014,638 to Burge et al. ("Burge").

Applicants maintain that the subject matter of the present invention differs from Burge in many respects, three of which will be considered here. First, many of Applicants' pending claims include a limitation directed to a "single platform". (See, for example, Claims 16, 19, and 24, which correspond to canceled Claims 56, 57, and 58, respectively, of Applicants' copending application.) Applicants maintain that this feature is not taught or suggested by Burge. For example, see col. 3, lines 57-63 of Burge:

In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, a sophisticated computer system facilitates communication between shoppers and merchants. The system is comprised of a collection of computer application programs *hosted on different computers that are interconnected by an infrastructure* that provides communications among the participating entities...(emphasis added)

In this regard, the Examiner's attention is also drawn to col. 4, lines 18-20, 32-35, and 56-60.

Secondly, many of Applicants' claims are directed to "pushing selected facts" or information. (See, for example, Claim 6, which corresponds to canceled Claim 59 of Applicants' copending application.) The Examiner seems to acknowledge that this feature is not taught by Burge, but asserts that it would have been obvious to modify Burge to do so. Applicants note that Burge is evidently directed to *pulling* content (see col. 1, lines 25-29). Moreover, the

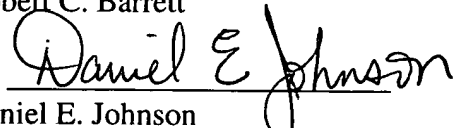
Examiner has not provided any justification for asserting that such a significant modification of Burge would be obvious, e.g., no reference has been provided to that effect in accordance with MPEP 2143.01.

Thirdly, Applicants have also claimed subject matter that is directed to a system for monitoring events that includes "at least one observer agent for monitoring a selected event of an environment" and "at least one reporter agent for examining created facts" (e.g., see Claim 1 corresponding to canceled Claim 52 of Applicants' copending application). Applicants do not see the connection between a spider and the agents in this application; for example, a spider relies on link-following methodology, and does not monitor a selected event of an environment.

#### Summary

Applicants believe that Claims 1-33 are in condition for allowance, and such allowance is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if a telephone conference will expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,  
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